

The Florence Christian Home.....Meeting a Need For Unwed Pregnant Girls

"...when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." Psalm 61:2

Experience has taught us that a "true" home is not just a building where you eat, sleep, and hang your hat. It is definitely more! It's a place where love abounds...where people care and take pleasure in serving one another. The family which lives under these circumstances is a happy family. Its members respect the rights and privileges of each other, and, the authority of those set over them.

Based on these concepts, the overseers and Houseparents of the Florence Christian Home have developed a code for congenial living. As is true of every happy home, God is its head, and parental authority is maintained and clearly defined.



Activities

A variety of activities is available and all the girls occupy their time productively.

Education is a priority and a local high school provides tutors.

Staff members, nurses, and trained Christian counselors present special programs and classes. The following classes are conducted weekly.

1. Prenatal Care	4. Bible
2. Lamaze	5. Cooking
3. Arts and Crafts	6. Homemaking
	7. Sewing

The Home life includes daily Bible study, mealtime devotions and weekly attendance at local church services.



Objectives

- To show the love and mercy of Jesus.
- To provide a home away from home by giving the girls a nurturing, loving, and supportive environment.
- To provide an atmosphere with strong, positive leadership in order to help young girls make decisions regarding their future.
- To provide skilled, Christian guidance and counseling, promoting spiritual and emotional well being.
- To provide skilled prenatal care.

**EVERY MOTHER
AND
EVERY BABY
IS
SPECIAL!**



Services

- Admission is by interview and conference with the Houseparents. Referrals are made directly, or by welfare agencies, doctors, ministers, lawyers, friends, relatives, and adopting agencies.
- Admission is without regard to race or creed.
- We do not place any baby for adoption. Casework services for child placements are available through various adoption agencies—Protestant, Catholic, Jewish.
- Family crises assistance through social worker, psychiatrists or psychologists.
- Legal assistance and/or Referral assistance.
- Regular check-ups at prenatal clinic or private doctor both before and after delivery.
- Discharge from the House takes place immediately after discharge from hospital.
- Fees for delivery are handled directly by the girl or with help of Medicaid and welfare.
- Delivery takes place in neighboring Wayne General Hospital.



About THE FLORENCE CHRISTIAN HOME

continued

- Founded in 1899 as one of the Florence Crittenton Homes, it was established to care for homeless girls and unwed mothers. When the Crittenton National Board revised its policies in 1952, the local home chose to remain an independent operation true to its original character and spiritual goals.
- A Board of Managers consisting of Christian men and women from various churches is responsible for the operation of the home and appoints the staff.

The Home is supported by contributions from interested individuals and churches. There are no Community Chest or other organized public funds channeled to the Home. The extremely modest fee paid by the girls does not begin to cover the cost of care...those in these circumstances can usually pay very little. Our ability to serve in this vital work of mercy depends on your prayers and your gifts.

Can this ministry count on you?

THE FLORENCE CHRISTIAN HOME
246 Hamburg Turnpike
Wayne, NJ 07470

Miss Theresa Bushman
(973) 956-1189



...I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. ...I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you came to visit me.